1242 Mill Street

Corner Main and Mill

1821

Torn down

1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 112

1821 current owner: Martha Bowers

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

#112

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT ☐ S ☐ NR	IF NR, SPECIFY ☐ Actual ☐ Potenti

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) (Historic)

2. TOWN/CITY: Berlin | VILLAGE: East Berlin | COUNTY: Hartford

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location): 1242 Mill Street 17-4/152/1

4. OWNER(S): Bowers, Martha E. est. Trustee — New Britain Natl. Bank, 51 W. Main St. New Britain 06051 ☐ Public ☒ Priva

5. USE (Present): Residence (Historic): Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☒ Yes ☐ No | INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☐ Yes ☒ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Federal — DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1820 1855

8. MATERIALS (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
- ☒ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☐ Brick ☐ Other (Specify)
- ☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone
- ☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone
- ☐ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: ☒ Cut stone Type: Brownstone foundation

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
- ☒ Wood frame ☐ Post and beam ☐ balloon
- ☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
- ☐ Other (Specify)

10. ROOF (Type)
- ☒ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth
- ☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other (Specify)

(Material)
- ☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☐ Gable end to the street
- ☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify) ☒ Ridge parallel to the street

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 | APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 32' x 35'

12. CONDITION (Structural): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated (Exterior): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location): ☒ On original site ☐ Moved | WHEN? | (Alterations): ☒ Yes ☐ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN: One chimney removed

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
- ☒ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
- ☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
- ☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☒ Scattered buildings visible from site
- ☐ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☐ Rural ☐ High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

At the corner of Main and Mill streets, an area of East Berlin with a number of 18th- and early-19th-century houses.

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER	DATE
HRC	11/84
VIEW: SE	NEGATIVE ON FILE: D5

COMPILED BY

NAME	DATE
Historic Resource Consultants	12/84
ORGANIZATION: The Colt Armory	
ADDRESS: 55 Van Dyke Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106	

20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (Interior and/or exterior)

This house has a five-bay facade with a central entry. The entry has slender pilasters, a radial-glazed fanlight with wooden muntins, and a projecting pediment-like hood. The pilasters and the rakes of the hood are decorated with fluting that appears to be hand-carved. Windows have plain board surrounds with small projecting caps and sills and are fitted with 2-over-2 sash; second-floor windows are high under the eaves; the small attic lights are fitted with old 6-over-4 sash. There is a partial return of the molded cornice at the gable ends. To the left is a shed-roofed framed-in porch. The right elevation has a central side entry with a gabled shelter. To the rear is a two-story, one-bay flat-roofed extension. There is a large barn on the property with a raised brick foundation.

18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER

SIGNIFICANCE

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

The house is significant as a well-preserved example of a simple 19th-century vernacular building with Federal-style influences. The entry detail, the central hall plan, and the overall proportions and shallower roof pitch are characteristic of the period. H.L. Dickinson, a dealer in stoves and tin ware, lived on the property in 1869; an 1855 Atlas shows no house on the site. It is possible that this house was built as late as 1855, but the high placement of the second-floor windows, the ridge-parallel orientation, and the lack of any Greek Revival or Victorian features, make it likely that it was built between 1800 and 1830. Quite possibly, the house was moved from another location, a common occurence in 19th-century Berlin.

RCES

1855 Atlas
1869 Atlas